(Investigation), Pune. However, the premises of some of the engineering and medical colleges were surveyed u/s 133A of Income Tax Act. Apart from that, some persons, allegedly connected with these engineering/ medical colleges were searched.

(b) During the course of survey on these engineering and medical colleges, no assets were seized. The documents which the department has obtained during survey are being examined.

(c) On the basis of the result of the examination of these documents, action as per the provisions of the Direct Tax Laws will be taken.

DTAAs for gaining income overseas

2238. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to work out Double Tax Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) with different countries in a move that would reduce the tax burden on Indians gaining income overseas through professional services and investments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of existing DTAAs that we have with different countries and the details of those which are most beneficial to Indians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) being entered into by the Government usually provide for an article on independent personal services under which the double taxation of income earned by Indian residents overseas through professional services is avoided. Similarly, the provisions of DTAA provide for a lower source country withholding tax rate on certain items of income including interest, dividends, royalties and fees for technical services.

(c) India has entered into DTAA with 69 countries and all the agreements so entered are beneficial to Indians.